

## Chester

**ABSOLUTE RATING:** Average  
**IMPROVEMENT RATING:** Average

**Absolute Ratings of Similar Districts**

Unsatisfactory	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent
0	0	17	2	0

### Definitions of District Rating Terms

**Excellent-** District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

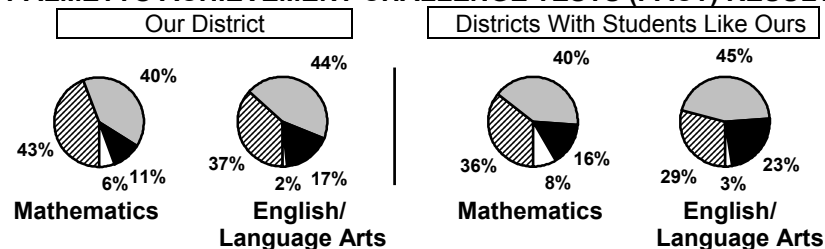
**Good-** District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Average-** District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Below Average-** District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Unsatisfactory-** District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

## PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



☐ **Advanced**
☐ **Proficient**
☐ **Basic**
☒ **Below Basic**

### DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

### PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2002		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Students Scoring Basic or Above on The PACT		
	N	%	N	%	N	% ELA	% Math
<b>All students</b>	291	90.4%	226	11.5%	3,052	63.3%	55.8%
Students with disabilities other than speech	8	37.5%	9	0.0%	355	34.4%	29.0%
Students without disabilities	283	91.5%	217	12.0%	2,667	67.8%	60.0%
<b>Gender</b>							
Male	136	89.7%	97	9.3%	1,554	58.6%	55.3%
Female	155	90.3%	129	13.2%	1,498	68.1%	56.3%
<b>Ethnic Group</b>							
African American	134	83.6%	112	1.8%	1,566	52.8%	46.7%
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	13	76.9%	61.5%
White	155	95.5%	113	21.2%	1,459	74.4%	65.5%
Other	2	I/S	1	I/S	14	57.1%	64.3%
<b>Lunch Status</b>							
Free/reduced-price lunch	86	84.9%	60	1.7%	1,553	54.5%	47.3%
Pay for lunch	205	92.2%	166	15.1%	1,456	74.4%	66.2%

N equals number of students on which percentages are calculated.

\*Using the criteria for students who entered college in fall 2001.

## Chester

### TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	2000	2001	2002
<b>Our district</b>			
Passed all 3 subtests	60.5%	60.9%	53.3%
Passed 2 subtests	18.8%	18.0%	22.1%
Passed 1 subtest	14.6%	10.2%	13.8%
Passed no subtest	6.1%	10.9%	10.9%
<b>Districts with students like ours</b>			
Passed all 3 subtests	65.1%	67.8%	62.3%
Passed 2 subtests	18.2%	16.7%	19.0%
Passed 1 subtest	10.5%	9.3%	11.9%
Passed no subtest	6.2%	6.1%	6.8%

### LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions\*

	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	11.5	48.7
Districts Like Ours	17.1	52.6
		11.5
		17.9

\*Using the criteria for students who entered college in fall 2001.

**College Admissions Tests:** Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
District	462	438	473	457	935	895	17.2	16.2	17.5	17.1	17.3	16.6	17.8	16.7	17.6	16.8
State	486	488	488	493	974	981	18.8	18.8	19.3	19.1	19.5	19.3	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.2
Nation	506	504	514	516	1020	1020	20.5	20.2	20.7	20.6	21.3	21.1	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

*These tests were administered to samples of students:*

**Terra Nova Test:** A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

**National Assessment of Education Progress :** A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

### Percents of Students

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

### ABBREVIATIONS FOR MISSING DATA

N/A – Not Applicable

N/C – Not Collected

N/R – Not Reported

I/S – Insufficient Sample

## DISTRICT PROFILE

### INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
<b>DISTRICT</b>				
• Dollars per student	\$6,714	Up 11.6%	\$6,966	\$7,072
• Prime instructional time	94.5%	Up from 88.8%	89.7%	89.9%
• Student-teacher ratio	14.6 to 1	Down from 23.9 to 1	18.3 to 1	18.6 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.0%	No change	0.4%	0.4%
<b>STUDENTS (n=6,425)</b>				
• Advanced placement/ Int'l baccalaureate program:				
Participation Rate	7.1%	N/A	7.2%	9.3%
Exam Success Rate	19.6%	N/A	57.9%	52.7%
• Attendance Rate	95.6%	Up from 95.3%	95.9%	96.0%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	5.0%	Up from 3.3%	5.4%	7.1%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	3.6%	Up from 2.3%	5.3%	5.6%
• Retention rate	8.6%	Down from 9.1%	5.9%	5.6%
<b>TEACHERS (n=489)</b>				
• Professional development days per teacher	N/R	N/R	5.0 Days	5.0 Days
• Attendance rate	98.9%	Up from 94.6%	95.2%	95.0%
• Advanced Degrees	51.3%	Up from 51.0%	42.9%	46.6%
• Continuing contracts	83.6%	Up from 78.0%	82.8%	83.1%
• Out-of-field permits	1.0%	Down from 1.5%	2.4%	2.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	87.6%	Up from 87.2%	88.0%	88.6%
• Average salary	\$40,024	Up 5.9%	\$38,686	\$39,023

### DISTRICT FACTS

<b>DISTRICT</b>				
• Annual dropout rate	5.3%	Down from 9.7%	3.6%	3.1%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	57.5%	Up from 54.4%	54.0%	53.7%
• Superintendent's years in the district	1.0	Up from 0.5	3.0	3.0
• Parent conferences	88.0%	Up from 78.9%	93.9%	93.9%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	Down from Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
• Number of schools	10	No change	10	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	No change	0	0
• Portable classrooms	2.0%	No change	7.5%	6.6%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	95.3%	Down from 95.7%	96.8%	96.8%
• Average administrative salary	\$63,289	Up 3.9%	\$65,378	\$66,570
<b>STUDENTS</b>				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	529	N/A	128	129
• Number of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	70	N/A	54	37
• Suspensions and expulsions	3.2%	N/A	1.4%	1.5%
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	4.5%	Down from 4.8%	10.2%	10.6%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	9.4%	Down from 10.5%	11.1%	10.7%

Chester School District  
109 Hinton Street  
Chester, South Carolina 29706



**Grades** K-12

**Enrollment:** 6,425 Students

**Superintendent** Dr. Barry E. Campbell 803-385-6122

**Board Chair** Mrs. Denise C. Lawson 803-581-6224

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**Annual District  
Report Card**

**2002**

### DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Chester County School District is committed to providing an excellent program of instruction for all children. We are a community of learners, parents, teachers, and administrators supported by a business community dedicated to improving the educational opportunities for all students. During the 2001-02 school year, the school district had 6,367 students and 781 employees housed in 3 elementary schools, 3 middle schools, 3 high schools, 1 career center, and middle and high school alternative education programs. The 2001-02 operating budget was \$36 million with a per pupil cost of \$6,716. The CCSD teaching staff is comprised of 581 licensed employees of which 26 are National Board Certified, and 327 teachers hold a Master's Degree or above. Programs designed to meet the special needs of students include gifted and talented, AP and honors classes, academic assistance, tech prep, college prep, pre-and full-day kindergarten, career education, reading recovery, interactive distance learning, and comprehensive technology support for instruction. All district schools are accredited by SACS and the SC Department of Education.

The Board of School Trustees' commitment to improving student achievement was the focus of all instructional initiatives during the 2001-02 school year. A Summit on Education sponsored by the County's Strategic Planning Team and the School District focused on a combined district and county strategic plan. The district has expanded early literacy initiatives. Readiness test scores increased from 87% ready in 2000 to 89% in 2001. Instructional initiatives have focused on both enrichment and acceleration of student learning. During the past year, academic achievement as measured by the PACT improved in English/Language Arts and math in each grade level tested at the elementary level with the exception of a 1 point drop in 3rd grade ELA. Middle school scores improved in 6th and 8th grade ELA and math, but declined in ELA at the 7th grade and math at the 6th and 7th grade levels. The district has completed the alignment of the math curriculum, purchased new textbooks aligned with the PACT, and implemented block scheduling to improve the middle school math scores. The percentage of 10th grade students meeting standard on the Exit Exam increased in reading and math and there was a 1-point decline in writing. SAT scores for all seniors increased from 889 in 2000 to 935 in 2001. The district continues to assess and revise the curriculum to ensure a program of excellence for all students.

Barry E. Campbell, Superintendent

### South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit  
[www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com) or  
[www.sceoc.org](http://www.sceoc.org)